Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal



The oceans are not in good health

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Abstract:

Marine scientists gathering at Oxford University recently warned that "the world's ocean is at a high risk of entering a phase of extinction of marine species unprecedented in human history". A dramatic decline in ocean health has occurred and is attributable to a combination of acidification, pollution, and climate change. Scientists have known for some time that the oceans are under siege but this gathering of scientists was surprised by the rapidity of change. Perhaps they shouldn't have been surprised. As early as 2003, attention was called to the accelerated transformation of the oceans and to major trends -- damage to coral reefs, increasing pollution, decimation of fish stocks, and rising temperatures and water levels.

Source: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3174499

Resource Description

Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Food/Water Security, Other Exposure

Food/Water Security: Other Marine Productivity

Other Exposure: Ocean acidification

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal

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Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): ■

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Intervention: M

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation: **№**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Resource Type: **№**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Timescale: **™**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified